In the Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for scheduling work and delivery of material for items in a factory comprising:

obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a customer, the item having an associated quantity of a material to produce, the customer order including a desired shipping schedule;

determining a current state of ~~an~~ the available inventory of material from a plurality of material sources;

generating a material request plan for producing the item using the customer order and the current state of the available inventory, the generating a material request plan including scheduling the customer order based upon the desired shipping schedule;

executing the material request plan, the executing the material request plan taking into account the desired shipping schedule, the scheduling the customer order and the taking into account the desired shipping schedule enabling shipping the item via a lower cost shipping method as if the order were shipped via an expedited shipping method.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein

the desired shipping schedule, the customer order and the current state of the available inventory are used to generate a subsequent work schedule and ~~the~~ a material delivery schedule.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein

the obtaining the customer order includes using a status for the customer order, the status for each customer order being updated continuously no less than every ten minutes; and

the status for each outstanding customer order corresponds to an outstanding status.

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4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein
the item is an information handling system.

5.   (Currently Amended) A system for scheduling work and delivery of material for
items in a factory comprising:

      means for obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a
            customer, the item having an associated quantity of a material to produce;

      means for determining a current state of an available inventory of <u>the</u> material from a
            plurality of material sources;

      means for generating a material request plan for producing the item using the customer
            order and the current state of the available inventory;

      means for executing the material request plan, the means for executing the material
            request plan including means for netting deliveries of <u>the</u> material with planned
            requests for <u>the</u> material during the executing of the material request plan<u>, the</u>
            <u>scheduling the customer order and the taking into account the desired shipping</u>
            <u>schedule enabling shipping the item via a lower cost shipping method as if the</u>
            <u>order were shipped via an expedited shipping method</u>.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein
the desired shipping schedule, the customer order and the current state of the available
            inventory are used to generate a subsequent work schedule and ~~the~~ <u>a</u> material
            delivery schedule.

7.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5 wherein
the obtaining the customer order includes using a status for the customer order, the status
            for each customer order being updated continuously<u>no less than every ten</u>
            <u>minutes</u>; and
the status for each outstanding customer order corresponds to an outstanding status.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein
the item is an information handling system.

9.   (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a computer readable medium, the program product An apparatus for scheduling work and delivery of material for items in a factory, the program product comprising:

an obtaining module, the obtaining module obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a customer, the item having an associated quantity of a material to produce;

a determining module, the determining module determining a current state of an available inventory of the material from a plurality of material sources;

a generating module, the generating module generating a material request plan for producing the item using the customer order and the current state of the available inventory;

a plan execution module, the plan execution module executing the material request plan, the plan execution module including a netting module, the netting module netting deliveries of the material with planned requests for the material during the executing of the material request plan, the scheduling the customer order and the taking into account the desired shipping schedule enabling shipping the item via a lower cost shipping method as if the order were shipped via an expedited shipping method.

10.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus program product of claim 9 wherein the desired shipping schedule, the customer order and the current state of the available inventory are used to generate a subsequent work schedule and the a material delivery schedule.

11.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus program product of claim 9 wherein the obtaining the customer order includes using a status for the customer order, the status for each customer order being updated continuously no less than every ten minutes; and
the status for each outstanding customer order corresponds to an outstanding status.

12.   (Original) The apparatus program product of claim 9 wherein the item is an information handling system.